persons should be allowed at the platforms as is being done in the case of airports. Efforts are being made to have a consensus view on this subject. Therefore, no formal decision on this recommendation has yet been taken.

(d) Does not arise.

Eastern freight corridor

3159. SHRl B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct eastern freight corridor linking east coast ports to handle containerized traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time-frame within which the corridor linking Paradip and other ports in the Orissa State would be taken up and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRl R. VELU): (a) and (b) Eastern Corridor of Dedicated Freight Corridor Project is proposed to be constructed from Ludhiana to Sonnagar. Later it will be extended to the proposed Deep Sea Port in Kolkata area in view of increased freight traffic.

(c) Paradip and other ports in Orissa will be connected with the Eastern Freight Corridor.

Pending rail line in Andhra Pradesh

3160. SHRl SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending railway lines in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the reasons for pendency; and

(c) the expected time to complete the lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRl R. VELU): (a) to (c) Pending projects are considered as those projects which have been included in the Budget subject to the proviso that work would be taken up after requisite clearances have been obtained.